

Herald Union



Vol. X, No. 22

Serving the military communities of the 104th Area Support Group

Aug. 5, 2003

Inside



Photo by Karl Weisel

Farewell to Bob Hope

The service members' long-time friend passed away at age 100. See page 4.



Photo by Patricia Simoes

Welcome home from Iraq

Family members and friends turn out in force to welcome home members of the 302nd Military Intelligence Battalion to Wiesbaden. See page 5.

New York memories

A civilian engineer describes his feelings about the connection between terrorism in his hometown on Sept. 11, 2001, and duty in Iraq. See page 8.



U.S. Army photo



Photo by Karl Weisel

Construction in progress

National Guardsmen put their engineer skills to the test while building structures in Wiesbaden and Mainz-Kastel. See page 6.



Photo by Spc. Shauna McRoberts

Army's senior NCO visits Baghdad

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley shares an anecdote with soldiers from Friedberg's 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry Regiment, during a visit to Baghdad July 20. The Army's 12th sergeant major of the Army shared stories, answered questions, challenged soldiers to one-handed push-up contests and presented his coveted coin and other gifts to a lucky few. He also thanked soldiers for their work in Iraq. "Thank you guys for what you do," he said. "You are the Army."

Child supervision

Parents must ensure safety of their children

By Karl Weisel

104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

Deployments put a major strain on families coping with separation at home.

While a host of programs, Family Readiness Groups and other outlets are in place to address family member needs and concerns, parents and guardians must realize they are ultimately responsible for the safety and well-being of their children, said officials.

"We have extensive programs in place to help take care of the children of deployed parents," said Celia Kandler, 104th Area Support Group Child and Youth Services coordinator. Extended hours, Summer Camps (see page 7 for a look at Wiesbaden's action-packed program), parent's night out evenings and a host of other Youth Services and School-Age

Service events are aimed at easing the strain and providing fulfilling activities for youngsters while parents are deployed.

But despite the many activities for youths, parents must still ensure their young charges are adequately cared for and looked after. "Children through the fifth grade are not allowed to be left home alone at all," said Barbara Bomberger, CYS administrative assistant. "This means that all parents of children elementary school age and younger require care of some kind."

"We would like to remind parents that there is a policy in place," said Kandler. U.S. Army Europe Child Supervision Guidelines describe what constitutes neglect on the part of parents.

⇒ Under no circumstances may children through age 4 be

See Supervision on page 3

Sign-in privileges monitored

MWR facility access controlled to safeguard German taxes, businesses

By David Ruderman

104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

Department of Defense ID card holders may invite Germans and other guests to Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities across the 104th Area Support Group but must ensure they are bona fide guests and be responsible for them

during their stay, said Installation Management Agency-Europe officials.

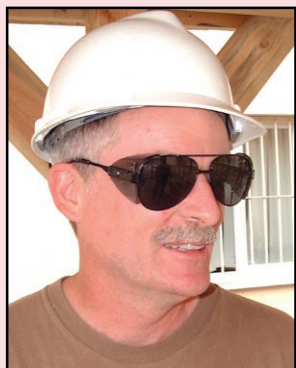
"The rule is that only DoD ID card holders with sign-in privileges can sign local or third-country nationals into an MWR facility, and they are limited to four guests for whom they take responsibility," said Lt. Col. Howard L. Malone, 104th ASG provost marshal. "The bottom line for the ASG and BSBs is to ensure that access control at every front door is being controlled in accordance with AER 190-16, which aligns nicely with U.S. Army Europe's Morale, Welfare and

See Sign-in on page 4

Remembering a fallen comrade ... page 19

Commentary

Feedback: Is the Army up to handling the missions it is assigned?



Sgt. Harold Brainard
204th Engineer Battalion

"I believe so. I think they're well trained and have pretty much all the new, modern equipment they need."



Sgt. 1st Class Crystalann Duarte
221st Base Support Battalion S-3

"Of course. It's an all-volunteer Army. If you need more people, more people will volunteer. America's not going to go down. That's a no-brainer."



Pvt. 2 Sam Gede
Headquarters and Headquarters Company,
2-6th Infantry

"Yes. We have a pretty good track record so far."



Jim Miller
284th Base Support Battalion
Community Mailroom

"Yes, I think so. Our Army is better equipped than any other army in the world; the soldiers are well trained. They are great."



Timothy Whitmore-Wolf
284th Base Support Battalion

"Absolutely they are. Our Army is the best all-volunteer force in the world."

Letters to the editor

Soldiers save life

We would like to thank two soldiers who helped us on Wednesday, June 18, at approximately 5 p.m. at the parking lot adjacent to the fish pod at the foot of Ronneburg, Ronneburg-Wiedermus. At that time my husband had slipped and fell into the stream outflow of the pond. As he suffered from two heart attacks in the recent past, he was very weak and not able to free himself from the situation.

Luckily a jeep with two male occupants pulled into the parking lot in order to make a turn, and they heard my cries for help. They immediately came and helped us — especially the tall black soldier who pulled my husband out of the stream. The other soldier was white and not so tall, but they both helped us.

I was so distraught at the time that I didn't even notice the license plate of the vehicle. If these men had not helped us so quickly it is possible my husband might have drowned. I would like to thank these men personally if you can identify them, and I really hope it is possible that you can find out who they were. I thank you in advance for your efforts.

Klementine Sauer
Hanau

Parents see son

Just wanted to let you know that I received the newspaper today which contained the story in which our son, 1st Lt. Jay Marvin, 2-6th Infantry from Baumholder, was interviewed in Baghdad. My husband and I sincerely appreciate your kindness in sending the paper. Your article gave us information on what he was doing since we had not heard from him. However, this past week we heard from our son and I told him about the article and that I had put a copy of it and the pictures you sent me in the mail to him. I know he will enjoy seeing them. Again, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I can't begin to tell you how much the picture of my son and the article meant to me.

Judy and Charles Marvin
St. Louis, Mo.

Recreation spotlight

Thanks very much for your excellent and extensive coverage of recreation events in the July 22 issue of the *Herald Union* ... very appropriate, for July is National Recreation Month.

Jim Ehrenreich
104th Area Support Group Directorate of Community Activities

Safeguard unit property

Commentary by Gen. B. B. Bell
U.S. Army Europe commander

It is my intent to ensure our soldiers have the best possible equipment and that we exercise good stewardship through proper use, care, custody and safekeeping of that equipment. In light of all our U.S. Army Europe deployments, support requirements and personnel turbulence as we fight the Global War on Terrorism, it is important to re-emphasize the contract we have with the American taxpayer for the care and accountability of our equipment. Here are the areas of particular concern to me — Table of Organization and Equipment equipment left behind by deploying units; post, camp and station property; and individual property.

Commanders who deploy are often left responsible for both the portion of their unit that is forward deployed as well as their rear detachments. When commanders are positioned forward they cannot exercise adequate personal supervision over the equipment and property remaining in the rear. Therefore they appoint rear detachment commanders to exercise responsibility over that property. This responsibility extends to all the unit's Modification Table of Organization and

Equipment and Table of Distribution and Allowance equipment; post, camp and station property that may be in their purview; and personal property. In all this we must pay particular attention to the absolute security and accountability of weapons and other sensitive items.

Rear detachment commanders bear responsibility for property that is not deployed. Direct responsibility must be assigned to the senior person available by designating a rear detachment primary hand-receipt holder for each unit. In order to exercise proper command responsibility for this property hand-receipt holders must be selected, hand-receipts prepared, 100-percent inventories conducted and hand-receipts signed. Within the rear detachments we often have soldiers in positions for which they have not been trained. Rear detachment commanders at all levels must ensure that this is taken into account and that proper preparation and training is provided.

In order to exercise our responsibility for the property that has been entrusted to us, we must conduct frequent inventories. Proper inventories require adherence to an estab-

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Herald Union

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News and features

News flash ... News flash

Iraqi ban lifted

The U.S. government has lifted most of its economic trade sanctions against Iraq. That means rugs and other souvenirs bought in Iraq by deployed soldiers can now be legally imported to the United States, said Michael Burkert of the European Command's Customs Executive Agency. Items determined to be Iraqi cultural property or of archaeological, historical, cultural, rare scientific or religious importance — illegally removed for the Iraq National Museum, the National Library or other locations in Iraq since Aug. 6, 1990 — are not importable. Restricted items such as firearms, alcoholic beverages, tobacco products and endangered species items such as ivory, furs and caviar must still meet the standard conditions for import into the United States. For more information visit the Office of Foreign Asset Control website at <http://www.treas.gov/ofac>. (USAREUR Provost Marshal Release)

IMO conference

The 102nd Signal Battalion will host an Information Management Officer Conference Aug. 12 at the Wiesbaden Activities Center on Wiesbaden Army Airfield from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration starts at 8:30 a.m. Topics include an information assurance overview, software ordering/new Microsoft ordering procedures and PKI/CAC information and implementation procedures. All signal officers, information management officers and other interested people are invited to attend. Register in advance by calling Thomas F. Kosakowski at mil 322-1443 or on the website at <https://helpdesk.102sigbn.army.mil/conference.htm>.

Reward increased

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is now offering a \$50,000 reward to anyone with information leading to the apprehension and conviction of the person or persons responsible for the murder of Pfc. Amanda Gonzales in Hanau. Gonzales was found dead Nov. 5, 2001, on the floor of her third floor barracks room on Fliegerhorst Kaserne. She had been assigned to Headquarters Supply Company, 127th Aviation Support Battalion. Contact your local CID office with information or call mil 336-2481, civ (0611) 816-2485. Information will be held in the strictest confidence allowable under

the law, CID officials said. (U.S. Army CID Release)

Iraq casualties

Sgt. Juan M. Serrano, age 31 of Manati, Puerto Rico, and a member of Friedberg's 1st Battalion, 37th Armor, died July 24 in Baghdad. Serrano was changing a tire on an M998 vehicle when it fell on him inflicting a fatal head injury.

Spc. William J. Maher III, age 35 of Yardley, Pa., and a member of Friedberg's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 36th Infantry Regiment, was killed July 28 in Baghdad. Maher was in a convoy when he was injured by an improvised explosive device. (DoDNews)

College admission

The University of Maryland's Mannheim Campus is currently accepting applications for admission and financial aid for the fall 2003 semester, which begins Aug. 18. The school is located in Mannheim's Turley Barracks. For more information call civ (0621) 33740, mil 380-4878 or visit the www.mc.umuc.edu website.



Leader photos

Installation Management Agency-Europe chain of command photos are now available from the U.S. Army Publication Distribution Center, Europe. IMA-E unit publications clerks can order and subscribe to the command photos using the Army in Europe Publishing System at <https://aepubs.army.mil>. By subscribing to any one of the photos, the unit publications clerk will receive all three. The nomenclature of the photos is AE MISC PUB 18, Director, IMA; AE MISC PUB 17, Regional Director, IMA-E; and AE MISC PUB 9, CSM, IMA-E. (IMA-E Public Affairs)

Deployment health

Service members and their families in Europe can now use DSN and toll-free numbers to get information about deployment-related medical concerns. The Deployment Health Clinical Center Helpline is available weekdays from 1:30-10:30 p.m. Central European Time. Leave a message after hours or when the helpline is busy. Call mil 312-662-3577 or toll-free civ (00800) 8666-8666. Information is also available online at <http://www.pdhealth.mil>. (ERMC Public Affairs)

Shipping a POV stateside?

Owners responsible for meeting environmental standards

Soldiers and civilians shipping POVs to the United States must ensure that U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Transportation labels are affixed to their vehicles before scheduling an appointment with their Vehicle Processing Center. If labels are missing owners must take action to meet requirements.

EPA labels are attached by manufacturers to the engine compartment. Owners whose cars are missing EPA labels must obtain an original vehicle manufacturer letter containing the engine serial number and vehicle identification number, and stating the vehicle is of U.S. origin and meets EPA import requirements.

DOT labels are attached by manufacturers to the driver's door.



Know the rules before attempting to ship a vehicle back to the States.

Vehicles without DOT labels must be imported as nonconforming vehicles. Owners must obtain a letter from the manufacturer stating the vehicle was manufactured to meet Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standards.

For more information go to <http://www.hqusareur.army.mil/opm/customs.htm> and click on "Vehicles." For assistance contact the Customs representative in your community. (Courtesy of 104th ASG Directorate of Logistics)

Supervision

Continued from page 1

left alone.

⇒ Children in grades kindergarten through grade five may only be left alone outside when playing in a playground or yard with immediate access (sight or hearing distance) to adult supervision. Adult supervision is defined as someone who has or has assumed responsibility of the child.

⇒ Kindergartners may not walk to or from school or other supervised activities alone; first through fifth-graders may walk to and from

school and other supervised activities alone.

⇒ Children in grades six and seven may be left alone for up to six hours in a 24-hour period (but not overnight) with ready access to adult supervision. That includes in the home and outside.

⇒ Those in grades eight and nine may be left alone at home but not overnight.

⇒ Older children (grades 10-12) may be left alone at home overnight for up to 48 hours, but a neighbor or friend must check on them at least

every 12 hours, according to USAREUR guidelines which specify that "minors will have telephone access to a neighbor in case of an emergency and must know where at least one parent is."

Programs such as School-Age Services, Youth Services, 4H and Boys and Girls Clubs are all aimed at providing local youths with a variety of fun and educational opportunities, said Bomberger.

For more information on these and other programs call or stop by your local CYS office or center.

Safeguard

Continued from page 2

lished schedule and use of a disinterested officer. While it is prudent for each echelon to check the echelon below, battalion rear detachments are the lowest level authorized to conduct official inventories. These inventories will be conducted

by at least a first lieutenant and/or a sergeant first class.

During this time when our assets are stretched and our units are engaged in combat, I want every leader to aggressively ensure their units are exercising proper stewardship for the property remaining in their charge. This

is a team effort and will require the support of all echelons of command including USAREUR Headquarters and Installation Management Agency-Europe. We will continue to execute with excellence Any Mission, Anywhere, as long as we all tackle and beat this tough challenge.



Job well done

Col. George A. Latham II, 104th ASG commander, talks to summer hires at a recognition ceremony at Yorkhof Kaserne July 25. Over 25 youths received awards and advice from the commander on making the most of the remaining summer weeks. "You've had the best kind of educational experience this summer that young people can have, learning how to get along in the real world."

Photo by David Ruderman

News and features

Newsflash

Officer courses

The 7th Army Reserve Command's 3747th Multifunctional Training Brigade offers accredited non-resident Command and General Officer Courses at various locations in Germany to active and reserve component officers. The course consists of four sequential phases over a two-year period. The Officer Education System Battalion conducts Phases I and III in weekly evening or monthly weekend sessions, which run from October to May of each academic year. Phases II and IV are conducted during two week cycles in June of each academic year. Officers must be in the rank of major or captain (promotable) to qualify for the course. For more information call Lt. Col. Gary Cleland at mil 466-2931, Lt. Col. Tom Ball at mil 373-7432 or Lt. Col. Bob Isbell at civ (06151) 69-7256. (7th ARCOM Release)

Limited service

Appointments are extremely limited for many clinics at the U.S. Army Hospital in Heidelberg because of other commitments. Active duty family members should call central appointments after 9 a.m. to see if there are appointments available. The OB/GYN and pediatric clinics continue to see routine appointments. Call civ (06221) 17-2622 to see what appointments are available. (U.S. Army Medical Department Activity Heidelberg)

Pay information

Soldiers, civilians, military retirees and reservists can now get their myPay Personnel Identification Numbers online. Individuals should visit the myPay website at <https://myPay.dfas.mil> and click on the "New PIN" button for a new PIN to be delivered by email or regular mail. Once assigned a PIN, users can access their Leave and Earnings Statements, manage allotments and conduct other financial transactions with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service. (ARNEWS)

New library name

The U.S. Army Europe Library Reference Center recently changed its name to the European Regional Library to reflect its role as part of the Installation Management Agency-Europe Region. The library continues to offer round-the-clock customer access through its participation in the Defense Digital Library Research Service's "24-7" Ask-A-Librarian program. The ERL is located in Building 3796 in Heidelberg's Mark Twain Village. It's open Saturday to Monday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Tuesday to Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Visit it online at <https://www.ulinet.army.mil>. (IMA-E Press Release)

ARAL gas available

Don't forget that U.S. Army Europe licensed drivers can now use their Army and Air Force Exchange Service gasoline coupons at ARAL gas stations on the Autobahn. All BP stations are being remodeled as ARAL stations following a merger. A listing of ARAL Autobahn stations and select BP stations is posted on the AAFES website, www.aafes.com, under "Your BX/PX." Drivers are advised to check with the station staff if they accept the coupons before pumping gas. (AAFES News Release)

Signal Ball

The 2003 European Regimental Signal Ball will be held Sept. 13 at the Rosengarten in Mannheim. All soldiers, civilians, local nationals and spouses of the signal corps are invited to attend. Gen. B.B. Bell, U.S. Army Europe commander, will speak. Tickets cost \$30 and are now on sale. Visit the www.eurosigball.net website to make reservations.

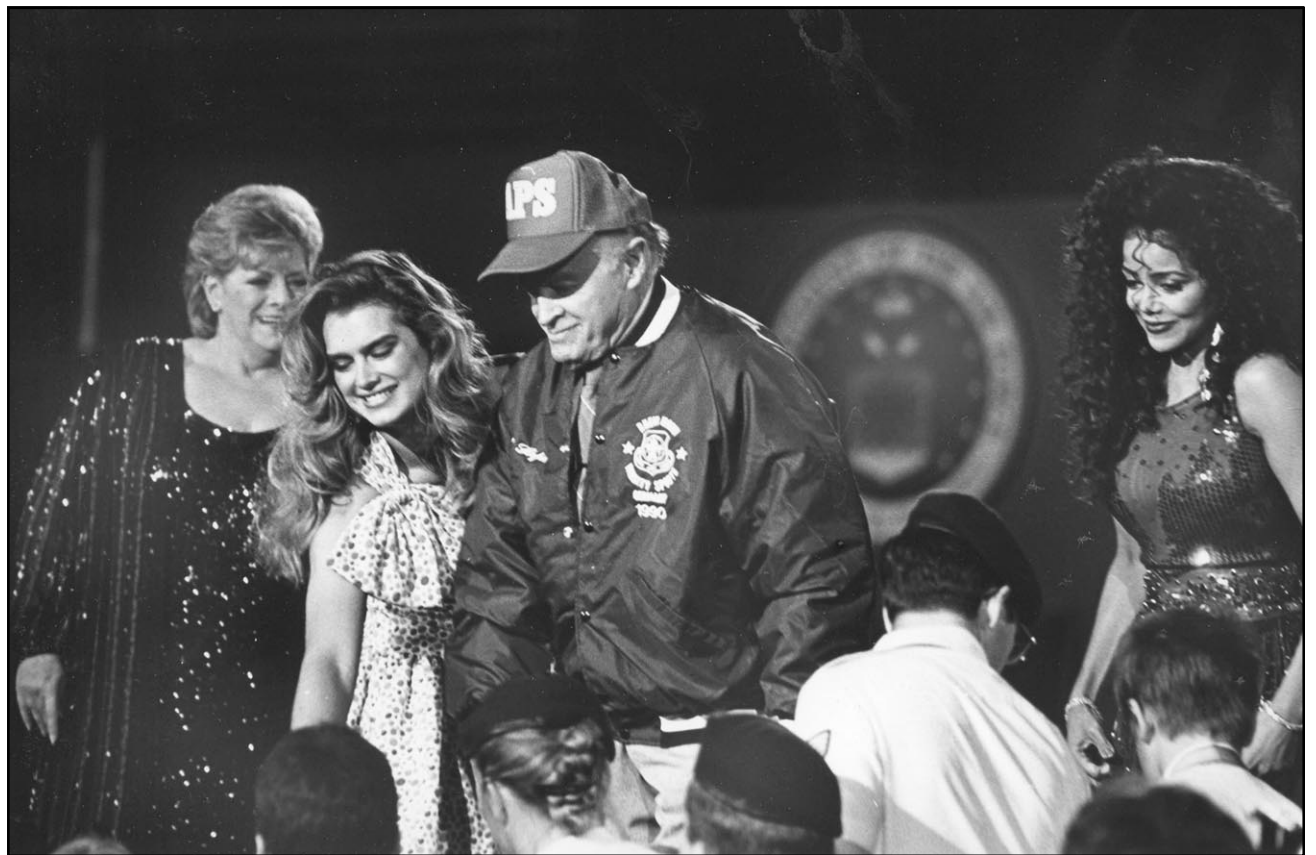


Photo by Karl Weisel

Farewell to Bob Hope

The "service members' friend," Bob Hope, greets service members and their families along with Rosemary Clooney (from left), Brooke Shields and LaToya Jackson during a final performance tour at Rhein-Main Air Base in 1990. The actor-comedian, who was born in Eltham, England, on May 29, 1903, passed away July 27 at his home in Los Angeles, Calif. During his lengthy career Hope never forgot about those serving in harm's way in distant lands, taking his USO road show to service members all over the world including performances during World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam and in Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War. He logged some 10 million kilometers over the years. In 1948 he launched his televised Christmas show for the troops, which he continued until 1996. "We mourn the loss of a true American patriot," said a Department of Defense spokesman. "He called the troops his 'best friends,' and he made it his mission to be with them wherever they served, regardless of distance or danger. ... Although he is no longer with us in life, he will always remain, just as he was, in our hearts — cracking jokes, boosting morale and reminding all the world of what it means to be an American."

Sign-in

Continued from page 1

Recreation policy and German customs law."

Facility managers are responsible for screening guests at their clubs, but compliance comes down to ID card holders knowing the rules and doing the right thing, said John Bomberger, NAF business manager for the 104th ASG. "They're relying on compliance by individuals who visit the clubs. Individual patrons are responsible for complying with host nation law, which embodies Federal Ministry of Finance requirements."

"If they have any questions about what the requirements are, they can ask their BSB Provost Marshal's Office, which I'm sure will square them away," said Malone.

"They have to sign in and they have to be a guest," said Brant Gardner, program specialist at the Baumholder Rod and Gun Club. "The service member signs in the individual with his or her Social Security number and the guest's Ausweis number or saying what passport they have. We also have a list of unauthorized people who are barred from entering MWR clubs, and we turn them away. If they persist we have to call the MPs. They do it the right way or they don't get in. There's really no argument."

"Right now, with business slow, we don't have a lot of German guests," said Mark Siple, director of the Hanau Community Activities Center, home of the International Club on Fliegerhorst Kaserne. "On our slower nights we have them come up to the bar and sign in; on busier nights we have them sign a log book at the door. It's basically routine."

Customers wanting to bring in large numbers of guests

have not been a problem, said Siple. "There's just not enough German business here for it to be an issue. It's small numbers. Once in a while — and we usually get a phone call in advance — we get people calling who want to have a small group of bona fide guests coming into the club, and we try to accommodate them."

The policy is based on the Supplemental Agreement to the NATO Status of Forces Agreement that governs the legal status of American military forces in Germany. Their implementation safeguards proper payment of German taxes and avoids economic losses to German competitors for the same dollars and euros, said IMA-Europe officials. The restrictions apply to MWR clubs, golf courses, and rod and gun clubs. Soldiers who violate the policy are subject to administrative action under Army in Europe Regulation 27-9. The violation of host nation tax laws can carry additional civil and criminal penalties, said officials.

Bona fide guests may consume food and beverages in MWR facilities, either as guests of their American hosts or by paying their own way. Casual acquaintances, for instance individuals met outside an MWR facility soliciting entry, are not considered bona fide guests and should be denied access. Facility sign-in logs are to be kept on file for six months and be made available to military, customs, law enforcement and ASG officials on request, said officials.

Business at MWR clubs is slow because of the deployment to Iraq, and most entertainment programs have been curtailed, but the rules are enforced as always, said officials.

"We have basically the dining room and the restaurant. It's slow, but we're hanging in there," said Gardner.

221st BSB – Wiesbaden, Wackernheim, Dexheim



Photos by Patricia Simoes

Welcome home to Wiesbaden

Photo left: Sgt. Fenel Aginior gets up close and personal with his wife, Harriet, during the homecoming of about 40 302nd Military Intelligence Battalion soldiers to Wiesbaden from Operation Iraqi Freedom July 26. Photo center: Soldiers and family members await the arrival of their friends and loved ones at the Reunion Center on Wiesbaden Army Airfield. Photo far right: Corina



James is the first to spot her father, Staff Sgt. Erin James, as her mother, Uta, holds on to her brother, Gavin, and looks toward the homecoming bus. Cries of "They're here" and "There's Daddy" filled the air as the 302nd MI soldiers, part of the 205th MI Brigade, arrived. Brig. Gen. Don Jacka, V Corps rear detachment commander, was also on hand to welcome the soldiers home from the desert.

